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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION December 1, 1998

The Honorable Patty Murray

United States Senate

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Washington, DC 20515

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05T-98-4775-40

Dear Senator Murray

We live and vote in your constituency and I seek your help because of great concern. I own (for the past 22 years) a travel agency dedicated to helping the consumer get to their desired destinations with optimum scheduling and the best possible fare. We are able to do that because of access to all schedules and fares available. We are unbiased!

You are aware, I am sure, of the major airlines' attempts to eliminate us---who have consistently done over 80% of all ticketing. We have suffered through CAPS on the dollar amount of our commissions and cuts on the percentage rate as they continually attempt to replace us with the Internet and their own 800 numbers. They will, of course, offer only their own BIASED fares and routes. The consumer will pay dearly should they be successful.

The most recent attack involves a \$100 cap on all international tickets and this surely will help them toward their goal. The ones hurt will be the consumer -- your constituents. Monopolies do that.

My wife and I ask for your aid. Can you lend your strength with word to the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General do what is necessary to prevent these monopolistic practices.

Sincerely,

Clayton Kelly Gross

Ramona H. Gross

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cc: The Honorable Janet Reno Attorney General, Department of Justice Constitution Ave. & 10th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20530 cc: The Honorable Rodney Slater Secretary of Transportation U.S. Dept. Of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington DC 20590